



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

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February 15, 2011

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6143

Re: Freedom of Information Act

Dear Congressman Issa:

I am writing in response to your January 25, 2011 letter requesting that the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) provide the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with information on the agency's compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In response to this request, we are providing the Committee with the following records and explanations:

1. A CD containing NEH's FOIA logs from FY 2006 through February 15, 2011 in Microsoft Excel format. Please note that each log includes the name of the requestor, the date of the request, a brief description of the records sought by the requester, the identification number NEH assigned to the request (which the agency also used as a tracking number starting in FY 2010), the date of response, and information on whether the agency provided records to the requester.

2. NEH has one FOIA request (#10-45) that was submitted more than 45 days prior to January 25, 2011 and to which the agency has not yet issued a complete and final response. NEH has identified this request in the FY 2010 log and has also enclosed a copy of all communications between NEH and the requester regarding this request.

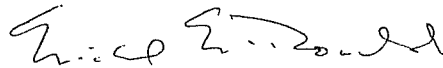
Please note that aside from FOIA request #10-45, the agency is currently working with the Office of Government and Information Services (OGIS) to resolve issues regarding two related FOIA requests (#10-21 and #11-6) submitted more than 45 days prior to January 25, 2011. For both requests, NEH has provided the requester with a final response, but has not yet provided an appeal response to FOIA request #11-6, as the agency is presently working with OGIS and the requester on issues raised in the appeal.

The agency can provide the communications between NEH and the requester regarding these two requests should the Committee wish to see them.

3. NEH has no records to provide the Committee in response to items 4 and 5 of your January 25, 2011 letter. In the five years preceding the date of this letter, NEH has not been ordered by a court to pay any attorneys' fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requester.

Please let me know if you have additional questions or if I can be of further assistance. I can be reached at (202) 606-8322. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McDonald", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael McDonald
General Counsel

Enclosures